

Sanctuary Advisory Council
Thirty-seventh Meeting
Wednesday, September 8, 2004
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Honolulu International Airport
Inter-island Conference Center, 7th Floor

DRAFT MINUTES

Attendance

Primary Council Members Present:

Jim Coon, Liz Corbin, Bill Friedl, June Harrigan-Lum, Becky Hommon, Kimokeo Kapahulehua, Eric Kingma, Teri Leicher, Bill Lennan, Naomi McIntosh, Jerry Norris, Terry O'Halloran, Sara Peck, Jeanne Russell, Glenn Soma, Mike Stanton, Jeff Walters, Reg White, Michelle Yuen.

Alternate Council Members Present:

Duane Erway, David Hoffman, Paul Nachtigall (for Marc Lammers), Terry Rice (for Bob Wilson), Cheryl Sterling (for Richard McCarty), Iris Thompson (for Glenn Soma), Don Thornburg (for Walter Haas).

Excused:

Don Bunnell, Athline Clark, Nancy Daschbach, Tamra Faris, Walter Haas, Lou Herman, Marc Lammers, Richard McCarty, Dick Poirier, John Reghi, Robert Smith, Glenn Soma, Bob Wilson.

Others Present:

HIHWNMS: Keeley Belva, Chris Brammer, David Nichols, Paul Wong.

PUBLIC: Cindy Barger, Kelvin Char, Greg Howeth, Adam Pack, Terry White.

Distributed Materials

- Final Agenda
- Final Meeting Minutes (06/17/04)
- Meeting Action Items
- Sanctuary Manager's Report
- State Co-Manager's Report
- Honolulu County Report
- Hawai'i County Report
- Conservation Committee Report
- Education Committee Report
- Research Committee Report

- Naturalist Certification Working Group Report
- HIHWNMS FY05 Annual Operating Plan
- SAC Chair and Coordinator Meeting Case Study Guidelines
- Council of Chairs Charter—Draft
- Research Paper: *Collisions between fast ferries and whales in the Canary Islands*, Tregenza, et al.
- Sanctuary Watch, Summer 2004
- Parasail topic paper—VanderLaan, UFO Chuting of Hawaii, Inc.

Call to Order

The purposes of this meeting are to: (1) enhance partnership opportunities between the State of Hawai'i and the Sanctuary; (2) continue efforts to expand our understanding of Sanctuary partners and user-groups; and (3) to address emerging issues within the Sanctuary.

Following a *pule* (traditional Hawaiian blessing) offered by Kimokeo Kapahulehua the Sanctuary Advisory Council (Council) Chair, Jim Coon, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Sara Peck took roll as members introduced themselves. The chair asked that the agenda item referring to Peter Young's presentation be taken out of order, and that the Council continue the rest of its business agenda following the presentation. The Council members agreed.

Presentation: Talk Story with Peter Young

Jeff Walters gave a short power point presentation on the State of Hawai'i's efforts in marine conservation, which was followed by a question and answer session with the State's Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) director, Peter Young. Mr. Young emphasized the State's support of the National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP) and pointed out that the State's support of Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve (NWHI CRER) is an example of that. Mr. Young said that the State would like to begin discussions on adding additional species (spinner dolphins, monk seals, and sea turtles initially) to the sanctuary. He emphasized that the intent of adding new species would not be to dilute the efforts of the Sanctuary as it is now. June Harrigan-Lum reminded the Council that the mission of the Sanctuary protects the habitat of humpback whales, which could be interpreted to include other species. Some members informed Mr. Young that the council has established a committee to address many of these issues. Mr. Young said that there could be opposition on two fronts—boundary changes and additional species. Paul Nachtigall asked what the rationale was for adding spinner dolphins to the list, as it is not endangered. Additionally, Terry O'Halloran was concerned that new species may mean new regulations, and that this would be a sticking point with the public. Becky Hommon explained that any marine mammal is already under federal protection by the marine mammal protection act. She also pointed out that most sanctuaries protect an ecosystem or specific habitat. The SAC briefly discussed the possibility of an ecosystem sanctuary. ACTION: The Sanctuary Change Committee will look at enabling legislative alternatives for adding new

species and focus on measures that will help to enhance educational and outreach efforts instead of prohibiting regulations. A council member asked if a new designation process would be required in order to add new resources to the Sanctuary. Sanctuary Manager Naomi McIntosh reminded the Council that the process to evaluate other resources for possible inclusion in the Sanctuary is outlined in the Sanctuary's revised management plan and is based on the same process used to designate a Sanctuary since a term of the Sanctuary's designation would be changed. The Council discussed other issues related to marine mammals and Eric Kingma talked specifically about mitigation measures that are in development for false killer whales and fisheries. Jeanne Russell asked that the Council be able to continue this discussion and communication with Mr. Young.

Mr. Young also said that the State would continue to look at increasing marine protection throughout Hawai'i. He said that the Council is an important part of resource management, and that although this is his first visit, that he has been regularly updated on the efforts of the Council.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

There was motion that the minutes from the June 17, 2004 Council meeting be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Forum

Adam Pack said that he and Lou Herman had previously submitted grants to the federal government proposing a effort to mitigate ship strikes by using an theodolite from shore in order to produce a real time showing locations of sighted whales that would then be available electronically to ships before entering a specific area. One of the grants was accepted by the Whale Conservation Fund of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Reg White said that the U.S. Coast Guard Regulation bill was recently passed by Congress. He explained that the bill requires the Coast Guard to work with NOAA to develop vessel routes.

Bill Lennan announced that he will be retiring, and that this is his last Council meeting. The chair thanked him for all of his work on the Council throughout the years. Mr. Lennan was a founding member and has been on the council since 1996. Mr. Lennan explained how at first he had been an opponent of the Sanctuary and now he proudly admits he has become its biggest proponent. He concluded by telling the group how much he enjoyed working with them through the years.

Discussion on Reports and Updates

Action Item Report:

Mr. Coon reviewed some items from the report (see attachment 1).

Sanctuary Manager:

Naomi McIntosh submitted a written report (see attachment 2). She presented the Council with a draft of the Council "one-pager" information sheet and asked that comments be submitted to Council coordinator, Keeley Belva. She also thanked the selection committee for their efforts and said that the final determination will hopefully be announced soon. Ms. McIntosh also informed everyone that the Hawaii Kai office would soon be moving to its new location and will be co-located with the NWHICRER.

Sanctuary Co-Manager:

Sanctuary Co-Manager, Dr. Jeffrey Walters, submitted a written report (see attachment 3). He said that the State, with funding support from NOAA, has been supporting efforts on Kauai during the weaning of the monk seal pups born there over the summer. Dr. Walters also said that he could answer questions on the recent ruling regarding the parasailing ban in West Maui waters. He confirmed that the State was planning to appeal the ruling.

Conservation Committee:

Dr. Louis Herman, Conservation Committee Chair, submitted a written report (see attachment 4), but was unable to attend the meeting.

Research Committee:

Marc Lammers, Research Chair submitted a written report (see attachment 5). Paul Nachtigall, Research Alternate, attended the meeting for Dr. Lammers and highlighted the committee's efforts to develop an anonymous reporting system. The proposal for the system is included in the committee's report.

Education Committee:

Jeanne Russell, Education Chair submitted a written report (see attachment 6). She said that she provided the Council with PSA drafts via email and asked the Council to review and comment on them. A conference call meeting was held on September 7, 2004.

Honolulu County:

Bill Friedl, Honolulu County Representative submitted a written report (see attachment 7).

Kaua'i County:

Kaua'i County Representative, Dr. Walter Haas, did not submit a written report.

Maui County:

Richard McCarty, Maui County Representative did not submit a written report.

Hawai'i County:

Hawai'i County Representative, Sara Peck, submitted a written report (see attachment 8). She highlighted the monitoring effort that took place on Hawai'i called ReefWatcher.

Boater Outreach Working Group:

Reg White, Working Group Chair, did not submit a report but showed the Council a draft of the sign that would be posted at boat ramps.

Naturalist Training and Certification Working Group:

Teri Leicher, Chair, submitted a written report (see attachment 9). She said that there was a conference call and the notes are submitted. The working group feels like it has served its purpose as a working group, and she suggested that the council establish a committee to develop products. ACTION: Bill Friedl moved that the naturalist training issues be addressed by the Education Committee. Ms. Leicher seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Retreat Committee:

Jeanne Russell, Vice Chair, reported that the committee has been working on details of the upcoming retreat. The location will be at the Ohana Keauhou Beach Resort on December 2nd-3rd.

Vessel Collision Working Group:

Terry O'Halloran, Chair, said that although group has not been active lately, they would like to be kept informed of other group's efforts relating to vessel collision topics. The anonymous reporting system developed by the research committee is an example of this. Bill Lennan asked if the Sanctuary had any authority to determine vessel routes. Ms. McIntosh said that other sanctuaries have established "Areas to be Avoided", asking that vessel traffic be routed around specific locations. Terry Rice questioned the difference in high-speed ferries verses cruise ships, high-speed boats, etc. Terry White, chief operating officer of Hawaii Super Ferry, said that they have been researching many options of routing within the sanctuary and would welcome any feedback from the sanctuary and the Council. Mr. Coon would like to establish a baseline study and data base so that there would be some authority. Bill Friedl would like to know how to move a study like this forward. Ms. McIntosh said that there would need to be a budget for it, and then organizations would need to submit a request for proposal through NOAA's finance office. Ms. Hommon suggested that there might be an easier way to report, for example, via email. ACTION: Paul Nachtigall motioned to encourage finding funding to support the anonymous reporting effort that was drafted by the Research committee. Terry O'Halloran seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

- MPA Advisory Council Meeting— will be held September 21-23 at the Renaissance Wailea on Maui. There will be two public comment sessions. Mr. O'Halloran encouraged members to attend.
- Sanctuary Budget—ACTION: Mr. O'Halloran made a motion to write a letter to NMSP director Dan Basta in support of the increasing the sanctuary's budget emphasizing the importance of education, outreach and research programs that would not be feasible if the budget is cut. Teri Leicher seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- Scheduling Council Meetings—The Council decided that the meeting schedule for 2005 would be as follows: January 13, March 10, May 12, Sept 8.
- Council of Chairs Charter—Ms. McIntosh briefly explained that the purpose of this charter would be for the possible establishment of the National Council of SAC Chairs in the future. The charter would define the advisory role of the National Council ACTION: Paul Nachtigall motioned to accept the charter. Don Thornburg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Case Study—The Council developed a list of possible topics for the case study to be presented at the Chairs and Coordinators meeting. The list included: retreats/planning meetings, partnerships, SPLASH, however, it was decided to discuss this in more detail at the retreat.
- Policy Topics—The Council developed a list of policy topics to be discussed at the Chairs and Coordinators meeting. The list included: interaction between SAC and management with budget, logo use issues, cruise ship issues, funding for NMSP, how the SAC can support the funding of sanctuaries, sanctuaries being asked to supplement other agencies—i.e. NOAA Fisheries.
- June Harrigan-Lum said that the State of Hawaii Department of Health would be reviewing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding cruise ship issues. Reg White also pointed out that one reason the MOU was agreed upon was that MOUs are able to be modified rather than a regulation that would take longer to modify.
- Vessel Collisions with High Speed Ferries— Duane Erway brought a paper to the attention of the Council entitled *Collisions between fast ferries and whales in the Canary Islands: observational data and theoretical limits* (Tregenza, et al.) ACTION: After some discussion the chair suggested that these issues be referred to the Research committee. Further discussion ensued with members of the public:
 - Duane Erway addressed some questions regarding the paper that he asked the Council to review.
 - Terry White was able to respond and said that Hawaii Super Ferry was unaware of any collisions that involved catamaran ferries. He also said

again that they would like to have input from the Council on these issues.

- Adam Pack said that there is a new study out that may address vessel collisions and he would look into whether it did or not.
 - Paul Nachtigall said that if he recalled correctly, sperm whales were the second most seen species.
- Teri Leicher asked permission to work with HIHWNMS management and staff to follow up on some efforts to conclude the work of the Naturalist Training Working Group.
- ACTION: Liz Corbin motioned that the Council write a letter in support of applying for a mini grant for SPLASH Education. Jeanne Russell seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Forum

- Adam asked for follow-up on previous action items. Ms. McIntosh reminded the council that action items are documented after each SAC meeting and reported at the following meeting.

Announcements

- The chair recapped the action items from today.
- Marine Mammal Commission will be having its annual meeting at the Royal Kona Resort—October 26-28. Humpbacks will be highlighted on the 26th.

Adjournment

Council Chair, Jim Coon, adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Attachment 1

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING ACTION ITEMS

Status Report

ACTION: The Council asked to be provided with an annual update on research topics that were highlighted at the Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals.

STATUS: An update will be provided after the next conference.

ACTION: The Council asked to be provided with an annual update related to research occurring in Hawai'i.

STATUS: An update will be provided at a time closer to humpback whale season.

ACTION: Marc Lammers offered to distribute the list of abstracts from the Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals that he prepared for the Research Committee to the entire Council.

STATUS: Dr. Lammers distributed this list via email on June 18, 2004. Copies are also available at today's meeting.

ACTION: The Conservation Committee was asked to keep issues relating to non point-source pollution active in their committee.

STATUS: The Conservation Committee will continue looking at these issues.

ACTION: The Council motioned that it would support the Conservation Committee's efforts to make Public Service Announcements (PSA) about "Watch out for Whales" type of campaign.

STATUS: Two handouts were distributed via email on August 30, 2004. Copies are also available at today's meeting.

ACTION: The Council requested to be provided with the FY05 budget and program plan for the Sanctuary by August 15, 2004.

STATUS: The Sanctuary manager will provide this information at today's meeting.

ACTION: The Council requested that the Sanctuary Manager send a letter to the Director of the NMSP reminding him to give the Council information on national policies in a timely manner for the National Council Coordinators' and Chairs' Meeting.

STATUS: NMSP Director, Dan Basta sent a packet for review for the by the chairs. Reference material from the packet was distributed at today's meeting.

Attachment 2

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Manager's Report September 8, 2004

Council Updates

Recommendations for the selection of the following seats: Business/Commerce, Citizen at Large, Commercial Shipping, Conservation, Education Alternate, Ocean Recreation, Tourism, and Whale Watching have been submitted to the NMSP Headquarters office for review and approval.

On June 11, the Chair and Vice-chair of the Advisory Council's Naturalist Training and Certification working group joined Sanctuary Manager Naomi McIntosh and Kauai Programs Coordinator Jean Souza in a conference call to discuss the direction of the working group and upcoming sanctuary activities.

On Aug. 17, the Retreat Planning Committee held a conference call to begin planning for the next SAC Retreat December 2 – 3, 2004.

On August 26, the Naturalist Working Group held a conference call to finalize the group's recommendation to the SAC.

Education and Outreach

June 2004

During the month of June, the Maui site featured special Saturday classes for families on "The Life and Times of the Humpback Whale" and "Turtle Tracks". The site also hosted a morning of science activities for teenage boys from the Maui Family and Youth Center's Substance Abuse Center; several days of a teacher workshop sponsored by DNLR and a variety of environmental groups on the Island, 15 Hawaiian immersion preschoolers from Punana Leo o Maui and a group of 50 third and fourth graders for a morning of turtle and humpback whale education. The program focused on the marine life of the sanctuary and nearby fishpond. Staff also conducted presentations on the Sanctuary, marine mammals and protected species for a Pacific Whale Foundation naturalist training class and to a Coral Reef Initiative Group and Maui environmental educators and participated in an Ocean Day Celebration at the Maui Ocean Center with a booth of informational materials on the Sanctuary and some kids activities.

On Oahu, staff kept busy working with the Coral Reef Outreach Network (CRON) to plan a year of public outreach activities for "The Year of the Living Reef Program" which launched in June 2004. The Sanctuary has pledged to support multiple outreach efforts for the CRON throughout the year. Efforts were also undertaken to develop a newspaper insert that the Sanctuary is working on for release in the Honolulu Advertiser this November. The insert will focus on multiple Sanctuary efforts including Boater Outreach, SPLASH, and more. The Sanctuary will be partnering with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, the NMSP, the Coral Reef Outreach Network in Hawai'i, the Coastal Zone Management Program and others to make this insert possible.

Sanctuary staff members held a conference call to discuss current and future efforts to increase the Sanctuary's work in the area of boater and ocean user outreach. Forthcoming products may likely include signage at harbors, stickers for kayaks, a feature in the newspaper insert, a brochure on boater safety and approach regulations, tabletop display panels, and new presentations and meetings with interested community members and appropriate groups. Products are being developed now so that when whale season begins the staff will be ready to go out into the community.

July 2004

Maui site hosted summer day camps throughout July. Kids participated in Sanctuary marine related activities and in cultural activities of the fishpond. In addition the site sponsored a full day of beach and inshore water monitoring activities for a group of students from a middle school. Highlight of the day was making their own plankton-tow nets and competing to see who could collect the most plankton. The "Digital Bus" supplied digital microscopes for the viewing the plankton. Students brought in by the Nature Conservancy on Maui spent a daylong visit at the site. On July 13th, the HIHWNMS held a public lecture based on the restoration efforts of the native Hawaiian fishpond located in front of the Maui office. The lecture was given by board members of the non-profit organization, `Ao`ao O Na Loko I`a O Maui (Assn. of the Fishponds of Maui).

Staff on Oahu continued to work on the Newspaper in Education Insert scheduled for release in November 2004. In addition, staff participated in Hawai`i's Living Reef Evening at Hanuama Bay Nature Preserve on July 10th. The event was sponsored by Hawai`i's Living Reef Program, Sea Grant, and Hanauma Bay Education Program. Staff also attended the Hawai`i Hotel, Hospitality and Food Service Expo that was held on Oahu and had an opportunity to provide information on the Sanctuary to many visitor industry representatives.

Justin Viezbicke, the West Hawaii State Marine Conservation Coordinator participated in Discovery Day in Kona at the Keauhou Shopping Center. The community event centered on educating children thru fun activities. There was a wide variety of booths set up. The HIHWNMS booth was very popular with the fluke matching/bean bag toss game and children's activity books. The event provided a great opportunity for Justin to get out in the community and let them know that we are here on the big island and looking forward to playing an active role in education and outreach. On July 22nd and 23rd Justin also participated in the Milolii Marine Resource Management Week. This program centered around teaching the children of Milolii (a small fishing village located on the southwest side of Hawai`i) how to utilize and protect their marine resources. While there were many activities and lessons for the children, the Sanctuary lessons included discussions on humpback whales, a whale tail matching game, and a life size drawing of the humpback. It was a great opportunity to get out into the community and teach others about the marine environment and to "talk story" with the local Hawaiian people living in this somewhat secluded area.

August 2004

Community interest at the Save Our Seas (SOS) Summer Ocean Festival held on Saturday on Hanalei Bay, Kauai was very high at the sanctuary information booth, the NOAA Fisheries booth, and Kauai Monk Seal booth. Participants were eager to learn more about the melon-headed whale incident that occurred in Hanalei Bay earlier in the month. The event also provided an opportunity for the sanctuary to: increase public involvement in HIHWNMS programs, increase awareness of NOAA hotlines for marine

mammal emergencies, and provide guidelines for viewing marine mammals. Dr. Robert Braun of the Hawaiian Islands Stranding Response Group also participated.

Staff from Oahu gave a one-hour presentation on the sanctuary, humpback whales, and Hawai'i's marine protected species at the Arcadia retirement home in Honolulu, Hawai'i. On August 20, the Oahu staff hosted a booth at the Invasion of the Reef Snatchers event sponsored by the Hawaii Coral Reef Initiative on the lawn of the Waikiki Aquarium. The Sanctuary booth offered educational activities for the children that included a new coral reef hat.

The Maui site hosted a lecture on sea turtles, presented by Skippy Hau, Aquatic Biologist, from Hawai'i's Department of Land and Natural Resources – Division of Aquatic Resources – Maui. There were 67 attendees.

Science and Rescue

June 2004

On Thursday, June 10, an overview of the SPLASH Research Project (an ocean wide study of North Pacific humpback whales) was presented in a conference call with NMSP staff from Monterey Bay, Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones, Channel Islands, West Coast Region, and Headquarters. David Mattila, Science and Whale Rescue Coordinator, provided an overview of the project. The purpose of the call was to increase awareness of the project's summer research activities along the West Coast and off Alaska, Canada, and Russia and to discuss education and outreach activities and coordination needs.

David Mattila briefed NOAA Leadership and Congressional staff on the Hill on the status of SPLASH. There was good attendance, with representation from Hawai'i, California and Commerce, as well as NOAA leadership, and the Marine Mammal Commission. There seemed to be much interest and support for the project. The Sanctuary also handed out the draft "North American Conservation Action Plan" for North Pacific Humpback Whales, which lists supporting SPLASH as an immediate priority action.

David Mattila met with filmmaker Feodor Pitcairn in order to review his unique underwater footage from French Polynesia, and to discuss the ways in which the Sanctuary's science and message can be incorporated into his new humpback whale documentary.

SPLASH received quite a bit of media attention for its summer cruise efforts. Articles appeared in the Seattle Times and Associated Press. The AP story was documented in: CNN International, CNN Provo Daily Herald, UT Washington Post, DC Local6.com, FL Duluth News Tribune, MN - KPUA, HI Grand Forks Herald, ND Kansas.com, KS Columbia Basin Herald, WA Wilkes Barre Times-Leader, PA Monterey County Herald, CA WCNC (subscription), NC Bradenton Herald, FL Bonner County Daily Bee, ID Petoskey News-Review, United States Elko Daily Free Press, NV Kentucky.com, KY Munster Times, IN North County Times, CA Worcester Telegram (Subscription), MA Charlotte Observer (subscription), NC SiliconValley.com, CA Centre Daily Times, PA Kansas City Star (subscription), MO Rapid City Journal, SD Wilmington Morning Star, NC Biloxi Sun Herald, MS ABC News Newsday, NY The Ledger, FL Los Angeles Times (subscription), CA Tuscaloosa News (subscription), AL Times Daily, AL Appeal-Democrat, CA Akron Beacon Journal (subscription), OH Columbus Ledger-Enquirer, GA philly.com (subscription), PA Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, IN Fort Worth Star

Telegram (subscription), TX - Myrtle Beach Sun News, SC Fort Wayne News Miami Herald (subscription), FL Sentinel, IN Macon Telegraph, GA Chicago Tribune (subscription), IL Orlando Sentinel (subscription), FL Carlisle Sentinel, PA MLive.com, MI Penn Live, PA Tallahassee Democrat, FL WTOP, D.C phillyburbs.com, PA Xposed.com Huntsville Item, TX Dunn County News, WI Albany Times Union, NY Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel, FL Fredericksburg.com, VA Hampton Roads Daily Press.

July 2004

David Mattila attended the 56th meeting of the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission as a member of several subcommittees on: Sanctuaries, Bycatch (entanglement), Whale Watching, and the Environment (which is hosting a special session on whale acoustics and the impacts of human noise). Specifically, David has been able to share the research portion of our management plan with the Sanctuary subcommittee, as they are investigating ways to incorporate Marine Protected Area concepts into IWC Sanctuaries. He has also shared our full management plan with representatives from Brazil, as they have just established a humpback sanctuary on the breeding grounds at the Abrolhos Bank.

David Mattila, Science and Rescue Coordinator, is conducting training in the Gulf of Maine for students that will be participating in SPLASH surveys that will take place next winter in Hawai'i and Japan. There is one student from University of Hawai'i and two from Japan that will be learning digital photo-Id and biopsy techniques, as well as getting an experience with humpback whales in a feeding ground.

Other

Ruling on State's ban on thrillcraft

On July 9th, the State Attorney General's office received U.S. District Court Judge Susan Oki Mollway's ruling regarding a motion for a summary judgment filed by two commercial parasail boat operators on Maui, Hawai'i. The court's decision invalidated state statutes and rules that directly or indirectly protect marine mammals. The operators filed a request for a summary judgment that challenged the validity of the State of Hawai'i law that bans thrillcraft (parasailing) in waters surrounding west and south shores of Maui from December 15 to May 15. The operators argued that the state law in place since 1991 is preempted by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) which states that "No State may enforce a state law that relates to the taking of a marine mammal within the State unless the Secretary has transferred authority for the conservation and management of the species to the State" (see 16 U.S.C. 1379 (a)). The State argued many different aspects about why the law was constitutional including that the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C 1535 (f)) overrides the MMPA and does allow the state to adopt laws that supplement federal protection of endangered species. The Judge did not agree with any of the State's arguments.

Currently, three potential options can and may be simultaneously pursued:

- (1) File an appeal with the 9th Circuit Court. The State Attorney General's office seems pretty certain that an appeal will be filed, however, they are doubtful of the results.
- (2) The State of Hawaii could seek management authority for the species by applying for an Endangered Species Act Section 6 agreement.
- (3) Amend/Correct the language in the MMPA and ESA.
- (4) Explore new regulation under the NMSA

Stranding

On July 3, about 150 melon-headed whales swam into the shallow waters of Hanalei Bay, Kauai, Hawaii. These deep-water, open ocean mammals appeared to be exhibiting symptoms of stress by swimming in a tight circle in a shallow part of the bay that was bounded by the beach, a historic pier and about two dozen moored boats. Under the direction of NOAA Fisheries and the Hawaiian Islands Stranding Response Group, an effort was made to gently coax the whales into the deeper waters outside the bay the following day. Using a reverse variation of the native Hawaiian method of corralling fish, a long twisted strand of beach morning glory vines made by the families of the Hanalei Canoe Club was deployed by five canoes and about six kayaks in a coordinated effort that involved the canoe club paddlers, kayak rental companies, volunteer kayak paddlers, fishermen and the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement. Onshore efforts also involved NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Kauai Police Department, Kauai county lifeguards, Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary staff and volunteers, and the general public. One apparent casualty of the incident was a young whale that found dead in Hanalei Bay. The animal was flown to a marine mammal center in California for analysis. Hanalei Bay is within the boundaries of HIHWNMS.

Naomi McIntosh, Paul Wong, and Christine Brammer attended and represented the HIHWNMS at a NMSP Pacific Islands Region meeting organized by Regional Coordinator, Allen Tom that was held over a 2-day period in Kona. Discussions included FY05 budgets for each site in the region. The meeting also focused on identifying ways that the Pacific Islands Region sites can share resources in the future.

Dan Basta, Dave Zilkoski, deputy director for NOAA's Office of National Geodetic Survey, Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa, Bill Mederios, Maui County Planning Department and Ed Carlson, Honolulu NGS coordinator joined students and community members in the unveiling of the geodetic marker at the Maui Sanctuary site. A high school student, Ian Seitz shared a project he has been working on to map the fire hydrants in the Pukalani for the fire department and the water department. Fifth grade students from Kamalii Elementary School joined the officials to learn how to test the accuracy of their GPS equipment and then took part in a GPS treasure hunt.

The Maui staff rescued a green sea turtle that had been attacked by a shark. The turtle was flown to Honolulu, however its fate is unknown.

NOAA Fisheries invited the HIHWNMS to coordinate education, outreach and volunteer efforts in connection with the birth of a monk seal pup born last week at the Poipu beach park on the island of Kauai. Sanctuary staff are actively recruiting and training volunteers to provide on-site interpretation to the hundreds of visitors who visit the park daily. Efforts will be made to host school field trips and other educational programs on-site during the six-week weaning period. In Kona, the Sanctuary assisted NOAA staff with the tagging of a newborn monk seal pup on the north side of Hawai'i.

The Maui site hosted a visit with Tom Wanly, Congressman Neil Abercrombie's Chief of Staff from Washington, D.C.

On August 18, the Maui site hosted a groundbreaking event for the new Sanctuary Learning Center to be built at the Kihei, Maui Sanctuary site with a ceremony that honored long-time HIHWNMS supporter, United States Senator Daniel Inouye. The festive event began with a *pule*, a traditional Hawaiian chant, and was followed by presentations from Tim Keeney, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Oceans and Atmosphere of NOAA, Mayor Alan Arakawa, Maui County. Later, Kimokeo Kapahulehua, President of the `Ao`ao O Na Loko I`a O Maui (the association for the Native Hawaiian fishpond that neighbors the Maui office), presented Senator Inouye with a traditional fishtrap. Bill Thomas, Director, NOAA's Pacific Services Center presented B-WET grant awards to three local organizations. Robert Lynn Nelson presented the senator with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation's 2004 Steward of the Sanctuary Award. Senator Inouye gave a very inspiring speech. The event focused on the community and educational uses and advantages that the new building will provide.

On August 19 Naomi McIntosh and Jennifer Black, National Marine Sanctuary Foundation met with Aubrey Hord, Coffee Partners of Hawaii to discuss joint partnership efforts with Starbucks Hawaii.

On August 19, Naomi McIntosh, Ted Lillestolen and Matt Stout met with Jim Austin, Outrigger Hawaii Hotels and Resorts to discuss new partnership ideas for next year.

On August 20, Naomi McIntosh, Paul Wong and Matt Stout attended Change of Command Ceremonies for the NOAA Ship Kaimimoana and the NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette.

Partnerships

The Fishpond Association, in partnership with the Sanctuary, received a B-WET grant for monitoring the fishpond and applying scientific research techniques through the use of technology and remote controlled boats.

Facilities

Renovations for the new Hawaii Kai office that will be shared by the HIHWNMS, the NWHICRER, and the Pacific Islands Regional office has begun. The O`ahu staff has started to coordinate efforts for the move which will hopefully take place sometime in October.

The sanctuary's newest office opened on July 29 at the Natural Energy Lab of Hawai'i facility, Keahole Point, Kona, Hawai'i. NOAA-NMSP Director Dan Basta was joined by Hawaii Congressman Ed Case and Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Chairman Peter Young in the dedication ceremonies. The new office will be administered by Hawai'i DLNR with NOAA-NMSP funding and staffed by a full-time marine conservation coordinator. First priorities for the new office include, outreach to recreational boaters, instructional support for local educators and naturalists, and field research assistance. Justin Viezbicke, the newly hired West Hawai'i Marine Conservation Coordinator, will staff the new office. Viezbicke draws on extensive marine mammal management experience and two Bachelor of Science degrees from the

Florida Institute of Technology. He most recently worked as the supervisor of marine animals for Dolphin Quest Hawai'i. He has been a Kona resident since 1996.

Administrative Updates

A University of Hawaii grad student, Chela Zabin worked with the Maui Education staff to set up a LIMPETS monitoring program. The program will be offered to both school groups and adults.

Maui site has a new intern from Santa Cruz, California. She will be with us for six months and will be working on exhibits and with the education team.

A budget planning meeting was held on July 8 and 9 with the Hawai'i Leadership and Management team.

Justin Viezbicke attended the West Hawai'i Fisheries Council meeting on July 15th in Kona. The Council asked him to hold a permanent seat that would represent HIHWNMS on the council. The Council is a citizen's advisory group that provides recommendations to the State of Hawaii.

Oahu Programs Coordinator, Chris Brammer, attended the 10th Anniversary Celebration at Olympic Coast NMS as the HIHWNMS representative.

HIHWNMS staff attended the National Marine Educators Association Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida from July 18 to 23.

University of Hawai'i Hawaiian Internship Program intern, Kaimanamalie Lee completed her 10 week internship project on Aug. 6. Kaimana spent the summer enhancing the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and `Ao`ao O Na Loko I'a O Maui's education program by designing lesson plans that volunteers of both organizations' can use at the Maui site to teach about the Hawaiian culture and the native Hawaiian fishpond, Ko`ie`ie Loko I'a.

Attachment 3

September 1, 2004

MEMORANDUM

To: Sanctuary Advisory Council, Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary

From: Jeff Walters, Sanctuary Co-Manager, Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR)

Subject: Update from the Sanctuary Co-Manager for the period of June 11, 2004 through September 1, 2004 (Prepared for the September 8, 2004, Council meeting).

New Sanctuary Office Dedicated in Kona

The new Kona office was dedicated on July 29, 2004. Guest speakers included, Representative Ed Case, National Marine Sanctuary Program Director Dan Basta,

DLNR Chairperson Peter Young, and NELHA Executive Director Jeff Smith. We were grateful that several Council members were in attendance. The event generated positive articles in the *Honolulu Advertiser* and *West Hawaii Today*. Justin Viezbicke, our new West Hawaii Marine Conservation Coordinator, worked hard with the support of several sanctuary staff to make this event a big success. The contact for the new office is:

Kona Office / Justin Viezbicke Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary 73-4460 Queen Kaahumanu Hwy, #12 Kailua-Kona, HI 96740	Office: 808-327-3697 Cell: 808-987-0765 Fax: 808-326-3262 E-mail: justin.p.viezbicke@hawaii.gov
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Monk Seal Conservation

Kauai - Two pups born on Kauai during the first week of August have kept sanctuary staff and volunteers quite busy. State staff members, Justin Viezbicke and David Nichols, have each spent several days and nights managing the protection perimeters for the mother-pup pairs at Mahalepu and Poipu Beach. The state office has also taken the lead on various administrative matters, including the hiring of night-time security guards. Jean Souza, Kauai Programs Coordinator, has served as the volunteer coordinator for these efforts. The pups are expected to be weaned by mid September. In the meantime, the close coordination between state and federal sanctuary staff, NOAA Fisheries staff, Kauai County personnel and the local community is expected to continue, so that the seals and Kauai's south shore beach goers may continue to enjoy the beach together.

Big Island – A pup born in late June near the Kohala lighthouse was regularly monitored by Justin Viezbicke. Justin also assisted staff from the NOAA Fisheries Pacific Islands Regional Science Center in tagging the pup once it was successfully weaned on August 4.

UFO Parasailing vs. DLNR

On July 9, U.S. District Judge Susan Oki Mollway ruled the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act pre-empts the state's seasonal ban on parasailing in Maui waters, a DLNR regulation that has been in effect since 1991. UFO Chuting of Hawaii Inc. was the company that filed the stay of enforcement that led to Mollway's decision. The state intends to appeal the decision. Sanctuary manager, Naomi McIntosh, and co-manager, Jeff Walters, have met with staff from NOAA Fisheries, Hawaii's Congressional delegation, and the state's Attorney General's Office to discuss the decision and its implications for the sanctuary.

Strandings

The Hawaiian Islands Stranding Response Group (HISRG) and the Hawaii Wildlife Fund (HWF) have received federal funding to enhance volunteer stranding response networks throughout the state. Sanctuary staff will be serving as community liaisons as this project gets underway over the next several months. The first community meeting will be held in Kona in the evening of September 15. Please contact Justin Viezbicke at

327-3697 for more information on the Kona meeting. Meetings on Oahu, Maui and Kauai will be announced within the next few months.

Strandings that occurred across the state during the reporting period include:

Species	Date	Location	Actions Taken with State Office Support (in Cooperation with NOAA Fisheries)	Notes
Melon headed whale <i>Peponocephala electra</i>	7/3/04	Hanalei Bay, Kauai	Approximately 200 animals exhibiting signs of stress nearshore were coaxed back offshore.	DAR-HIWHNMS (Nichols) assisted state coordination. DOCARE-Kauai assisted with crowd control.
Spotted Dolphin <i>Stenella attenuata</i>	7/12/04	Oahu	Live dolphin taken to rehab facility. Euthanized July 15.	DAR-HIWHNMS (Nichols) assisted with necropsy of animal.

Sanctuary Vessels

David Nichols continues to assist with maintenance, repair and storage of the sanctuary's new 40' vessel ManaCat. David has coordinated use of a DLNR-DAR "dually" truck to put the boat in and out of the water, as well as arranged to store the vessel at the DLNR-DAR facility on Sand Island. The 22' SeaCat, under the care of DAR-Maui, continues its summer service as a platform for coral reef survey work in the 4-island area.

US FWS Grant for State Aquatic Wildlife Conservation Strategy

The state office has taken the lead in securing a grant (\$150K) from the US Fish and Wildlife Service's (US FWS) State Wildlife Grants program to develop a conservation strategy for Hawaii's aquatic wildlife. The strategy will include conservation recommendations for marine mammals and sea turtles. These recommendations will be developed from thorough analyses of the natural history, habitat needs, and pressing conservation issues facing each species. It is expected that these analyses will help inform the sanctuary staff and advisory council regarding the possible addition of new species to the sanctuary. The state office is currently negotiating a contract with the UH Pacific Cooperative Services Unit to assist in the development of the strategy. Once accepted by US FWS, priority recommendations of the strategy will guide future US FWS grant funding decisions. The strategy for aquatic wildlife will be integrated with the strategy for terrestrial wildlife, currently under development by DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife, to form Hawaii's State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. US FWS is asking all participating states to have their completed strategies submitted before October 2005.

Other Activities, Meetings, Etc.

- I. June 18 – Jeff Walters attended BLNR meeting regarding contract for US FWS aquatic wildlife strategy.
- II. June 23 – Jeff Walters joined representatives of the Hawaii Watchable Wildlife steering committee in meeting with DLNR Director Peter Young.

- III. June 24 – Jeff Walters provided a technical update to the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council in his capacity as the chairman of the council's coral reef ecosystem fishery management plan team.
- IV. July 1 – Jeff Walters and David Nichols accompanied DLNR Director Peter Young during meeting with Bill Robinson, NOAA-NMFS-PIRO Regional Administrator, and Tamra Faris, NOAA-NMFS-PIRO Assistant Regional Administrator for Protected Resources, regarding dolphin conservation and other pressing marine mammal issues.
- V. July 6-23 – Jeff Walters was on vacation in the Philippines.
- VI. July 6 – David Nichols attended meeting with DAR staff and David Laist of the Marine Mammal Commission to discuss planning for the upcoming Commission meeting scheduled in Kona for October 26 – 28, 2004.
- VII. July 6-7 – Justin Viezbicke participated in various educational activities and briefings with Patty Miller at the Kihei, Maui site.
- VIII. July 8-9 – David Nichols represented state office at annual sanctuary budget development meeting.
- IX. July 30 – Justin Viezbicke attended NOAA communications training on Maui.
- X. August 12 – Jeff Walters attended meeting with staff from Rep. Abercrombie regarding Mollway decision and other pressing marine mammal conservation issues.
- XI. August 18 – Justin Viezbicke, David Nichols and Jeff Walters assisted during the groundbreaking event for the new Sanctuary Learning Center in Kehei, Maui.
- XII. August 24-25 - Justin Viezbicke, David Nichols and Jeff Walters attended a NOAA-sponsored conflict management training on Oahu.
- XIII. August 26 – Jeff Walters attended a Watchable Wildlife steering committee meeting at DLNR.

cc: Peter T. Young, DLNR Chairperson
 Yvonne Y. Izu, DLNR Deputy Director
 William S. Devick, DLNR-DAR Administrator
 Allen Tom, NMSP Pacific Islands Regional Coordinator
 Naomi McIntosh, Sanctuary Manager

Attachment 4

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

Conservation Committee Report, Lou Herman, Chair

(Notes from the Conservation and Education Subcommittees Joint Meeting on 6/17/04)

September 8, 2004

Attendance

Members: James Coon, Walter Haas, Lou Herman, Eric Kingma, William Lennan, Terry O'Halloran, Jeanne Russell, Reg White, Bob Wilson
 Staff: Naomi McIntosh, David Nichols, Jean Souza, Justin Viezbicke, Jeff Walters

Finalizing report on operators' survey of "whale waters" vessel operating policies

Lou Herman reviewed progress to date and summarized his request that members prepare written responses to seven questions that were distributed via a memo from Dr. Herman. The questions sought to capture information related to vessel operation, operator awareness, current risk levels and possible mitigation measures. Dr. Herman noted that mitigation measures and other concerns could differ significantly between vessel types. Discussion turned to the cruise ship industry and concerns were expressed in particular about foreign flagged vessels and/or those not members of the Northwest Cruise Ship Association (NWCA). Several members supported a strategy of reaching the operators of these ships via ships' agents and harbor pilots. Naomi McIntosh passed around a waterproof three-ring binder insert developed by the National Marine Sanctuaries in Northern California that had a chart showing recommended transit lanes through the sanctuaries on one side and various vessel operation and sanctuary facts on the other side. Reg White reminded the group that it would be best to provide materials in up to nine languages, as the operators of these vessels may not be proficient in English. In closing, Dr. Herman reviewed the assignments of various members to respond to the seven questions regarding the various vessel types. The group agreed on July 30 as the deadline to submit the written responses. It was decided that staff would compile the responses into one report, which would then be reviewed and edited by the conservation subcommittee via a conference call that would occur in early August. The goal would be a report to provide to the full Council in time for the September Council meeting.

Use of PSA's in education and outreach

The subcommittees also discussed the value and use of public service announcements (PSA's) in public education and outreach. A motion passed unanimously supporting the use of PSA's that carried messages related to natural history facts and safe boating tips. The PSA's would be prepared as "canned" PSA's ready to air as is, and also provided as scripts that broadcast personalities could read themselves.

Attachment 5

RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Sept 8th, 2004

Marc O. Lammers, Chair

The Research Committee met immediately following the June 17th SAC meeting and continued the discussion on plans for an anonymous, State-wide whale/vessel collision reporting system. The discussion centered primarily on the statistical validity of the study's expected findings. It was generally agreed that the study would yield data with statistical limitations, but that from a management standpoint, the resulting information would be valuable nonetheless. It was agreed that the study's primary product would be an assessment of whether an anonymous reporting system is feasible and that a clearer understanding would emerge of how to implement such a system over the long term.

A draft research plan for the anonymous reporting study was submitted for the committee's consideration in advance of the meeting. There was general approval of the document. The main change requested by some members was that evaluating the effectiveness of the reporting system be more clearly defined as a primary objective of the study.

I was tasked with revising the research plan and soliciting comments from NOAA's Pacific Islands Regional Office (PIRO). I made the requested revisions and submitted the document to PIRO via email for review in late July. As of this writing, PIRO has not yet provided comments.

The draft research plan will be submitted to the SAC for a vote of approval at today's meeting. If the plan is approved, it will be forwarded to the sanctuary managers with a request that resources be allocated for its implementation. The intention is to have an approved research plan in time for the upcoming whale season.

A STUDY TO EVALUATE AN ANONYMOUS VESSEL/WHALE COLLISION REPORTING SYSTEM

Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Research Committee

Introduction

A recent survey of the whale/vessel collision reports made since 1975 revealed that the number of collisions between humpback whales and vessels in Hawaii have been steadily increasing, particularly over the past decade (Lammers et al, 2003). There is uncertainty, however, over the specific number of collisions that occur each year due to the high likelihood of under-reporting of such incidents by mariners. The same study revealed that nearly half of all mariners responding to a voluntary mail-in questionnaire believe that less than 25% of all incidents are presently reported (Lammers et al, 2003). The most common solution offered by respondents as a way to improve the reporting process was to allow anonymous reports to be made. A system capable of accepting anonymous reports does not currently exist. Persons wishing to report an incident are directed to NOAA's Pacific Islands Regional Office and to the Coast Guard, which are mandated to investigate the incident and take legal action if warranted.

Given the apparent ambiguity in the current reporting system's ability to accurately track the number and nature of collisions occurring each year, the Sanctuary Advisory Council Research Committee proposes that a study be sponsored by the Hawaiian Island Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS) to examine the feasibility, effectiveness and merits of a State-wide anonymous reporting system.

Objectives

The proposed study would create a temporary reporting system capable of accepting anonymous reports from mariners wishing to contribute information about incidents, but reluctant to do so under the present system. The anonymous reporting system envisioned would not replace existing reporting protocols. Rather, it would serve as a basis for examining how the present system could be improved to more accurately reflect the frequency and nature of collisions. In other words, it would serve as an information gathering tool, not as a resource for investigating incidents or implementing regulations. The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To establish the extent to which allowing anonymous reports to be made will change the number of incidents reported annually. In other words, do non-anonymous reports truly only reflect a fraction of the incidents taking place?
2. To identify potential biases present in current reporting trends. For example, are certain mariners presently more likely to report incidents due to legal obligations than others?
3. To identify problems that may be associated with an anonymous reporting system and find possible solutions.

Approach

The study envisioned would span a two-year period beginning with the 2004-2005 whale season and would have two components. One component would be the establishment of an experimental reporting system that meets the following criteria:

1. If requested, individuals making a report would be assured anonymity.
2. To encourage participation, the information collected would remain basic and non-incriminatory, but it would include as a minimum the time, approximate location, type of vessel involved and the nature of the collision.
3. Reports would be filed by either calling a toll-free phone number or by submitting a web-based form.
4. The reporting system would be publicized and endorsed by State and Federal agencies.
5. All persons making a report would be informed of any legal obligations they still have to file a report with the proper authorities. How they use that information, however, would be left to them.

The second component of the study would be a concurrent effort to evaluate the effectiveness of the reporting system. This would take the form of a mail-in survey of mariners State-wide and would draw on publicly available boater registration information.

To avoid legal or bias concerns, the study should be implemented by an impartial, non law-enforcement and non-commercial entity, such as the University of Hawaii, Sea Grant, or a local NGO. The study's final findings would be reported to the HIHWNMS's managers.

Expected outcomes

The proposed study's primary product will be a dataset of collision incidents that will be compared to a separate data set compiled from media reports and government records. The comparison will provide a metric to gage how representative current reporting trends are in relation to what mariners know and are willing to share. A second benefit will be a more accurate understanding of the whale/vessel collision issue. If indeed more reports are received under the anonymous system, the associated information will shed light on

the circumstances, location and severity of these incidents. Finally, a third product will be the lessons learned about the problems associated with an anonymous reporting system. These lessons will help determine the feasibility of creating a long-term anonymous component to existing reporting methods.

Expected cost (per year)

Web page design and hosting:.....	\$1K-\$3K*
Toll-free phone line & cell phone:.....	\$1K
Advertising and outreach:.....	\$5K
Personnel:.....	\$10K
TOTAL:.....	\$17K-\$19K

* Web page design costs will depend on the need to subcontract professionally.

Reference

Lammers, M.O., Pack, A.A. and Davis, L. (2003). "Historical evidence of whale/vessel collisions in Hawaiian waters (1975 – Present)." OSI Technical Report 2003-01. Prepared for NOAA's Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.

Education Committee Report
September 8, 2004
Jeanne Russell, Chair

I.

On June 17, 2004 the Education Committee met jointly with the Conservation Committee. The Conservation Committee asked the Education Committee for a list of one-minute PSA about humpback whales and a list of boater safety information. The hope was to air PSA about whales while also educating the public about boater safety and proper handling of boats during the whale season. Since the meeting, the Education Committee has compiled a list of twenty one-minute PSA regarding humpback whale information and a list of five boater safety suggestions.

We would like to request that the board review the list and make comments and/or suggestions. Also, we would like SAC members to indicate which PSAs they preferred.

II.

On September 7, 2004, the Education Committee had another meeting via conference call. In attendance were Keeley Belya, Naomi McIntosh, Patty Miller and Jeanne Russell.

At the meeting, Patty mentioned that she is writing a mini-grant for education and outreach efforts to support SPLASH. She has asked the Education Committee to write a letter of support. The letter would support the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary's effort to obtain funding for education and outreach efforts related to SPLASH.

A vote is needed from SAC indicating whether or not they wanted to support these efforts and go forth with a letter.

III.

At the last SAC meeting, a list asking for Ideas for Free Media Attention was passed around. The following is a compilation of that list:

- ☐ "Hawaii Goes Fishing" NOAA fisheries does a spot on each show. Contact Karla Gorc-NOAA Pacific Islands Regional Office (973-2935)
- ☐ Maui - Akulew TV 5 minute spots
- ☐ Kauai - Wala'au Local TV shows - Dickie Chang
-Kong Radio
- ☐ Waikiki- Network Media - Peter Gellatly
- ☐ Hotel In-Room TV
- ☐ "NPR Local" - Whale Factoid of the Day
- ☐ Joane Shin at Channel 8 did a very good production on whale watching only tiny bits were run. Maybe she could do it again.
- ☐ Tourist free publications

Attached:
Whale Facts
Boater Safety

Attachment 7

**Honolulu County Report
September 8, 2004
Bill Friedl , Representative**

Accomplishments:

Nothing to report

Events "Attended":

On July 21, I participated in a DARPA site visit to the Makai Research Pier in Waimanalo. While visiting Makai Ocean Engineering, I had the distinct pleasure of meeting "DB", a citizen volunteer who monitors Hawaiian monk seals on O'ahu. DB's current subjects of interest are an adult and two youngsters on Rabbit Island. The enthusiasm and knowledge of this volunteer were impressive and his observations should be valuable additions to the records for the species around O'ahu.

Hot Topics:

On August 7th, a skipper of a sport fishing boat expressed concern regarding potential collisions between humpback whales and the proposed high-speed interisland ferry. He said he was aware that various agencies were "looking into the potential problem" but was concerned by the lack of pre-operational guidance and limitations to reduce risk from high speed vessels operating in "whale waters". Perhaps the skipper's concern indicates an "outreach opportunity" to bring the public up to speed on all the Sanctuary has done regarding the "wessel issue" since the Maui confab. I believe this issue should remain a high priority item for the Sanctuary.

Weren't we supposed to get a draft 2005 project-level Program Plan and Budget from Sanctuary management by August 15th for SAC comment and endorsement on September 8th?

Announcements:

Nothing to announce

Attachment 8

Hawaii County Report

7 September 2004

_____ Sara Peck _____, Representative

Accomplishments:

ReefTalk, June 15th "Report on FRA Research by WHAP" by Dr. Bill Walsh, Kona

ReefTalk July 21st, "Gill Netting Ban in Florida! What Happened after That?" by Mr. Bob Palmer and Dr. Robert Muller, Florida Fish and Wildlife and Florida Marine Research Institute (respectively).

ReefTalk August 3rd, "Hawaiian Monk Seals Endangered" by Dr. Bill Gilmartin.

ReefWatcher Training June 3, 4, 5, and 14th, July 21, 22 and 23, August 6 and 13 from Waimea to Milolii, mixed adults and youth

ReefTeachers adult cadre continues, with Duane Erway leading the teaching effort at Kahalu'u Bay. Duane is also gathering data on human use behavior change: Taught vs Not Taught. West Hawaii Explorations Academy is continuing to gather data, as are the Kona Girl Scouts on their ReefTeach days.

Milolii Summer Fun Marine Resources Week July 20-23. Various activities were carried out. Justin Viezbicke, representing the Sanctuary, assisted with the bean bag game on one day and he helped the children draw a humpback whale on the ball court the next day...a real success!

Events Attended:

See Above

Hot Topics:

Gill Netting

Announcements:

ReefTalk Sept. 14th, will be Justin Viezbicke, "New Whale Sanctuary Office in Kona!".

ReefWatcher Trainings will continue in September and October per announcement.

REEF Training to take place with Jack's Dive Shop Sept. 24-26.

Attachment 9

Naturalist Training August 26, 2004

Participants: Teri, Jeff, Keeley, Jean

The group reviewed some of the inventories that were received from the forms that were sent out in July. There were less than 10 received.

The group discussed the following:

- Can the sanctuary “approve” existing naturalist courses? And then provide curriculum on NMSP and the specific sanctuary.
- Whether the idea was to certify providers (i.e. instructors) and/or students.
- One proposed goal—compile, and develop as needed (i.e. NMSP, HIHWNMS information), curriculum that can be used by other organizations, Sanctuary staff/volunteers, on-line, etc. that would be sanctuary-approved. The students would have to pass learning objectives and/or test.
- Jean specified that there are other options and how the sanctuary could support the groups efforts.
- Whether the working group has completed its original tasks.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Get information/survey from Mark Deakos—Jean?
2. Keeley will follow up with Donna Brown at MCC. MOP Coordinator—survey over the phone/fax
3. Summarize the results of the surveys and send to working group.
4. Develop the content that we want people to know about (i.e. Sanctuary-specific information such as SPLASH and general knowledge about our Sanctuaries nationwide).
5. Determine what the qualifications are for certification.
6. Email with summary that we decided to look at developing an exam and the knowledge that we want people to know about.